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CANADIAN

# Welfare

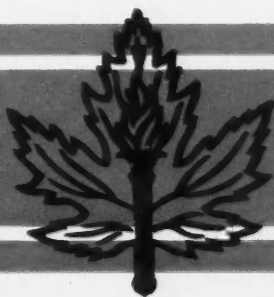


Canadian Army Photo

*Coming Home*

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# Rehabilitation Issue

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## *Coming Home*

**T**HE combination of these two words produces a quickening of spirit for almost everyone. In times like these they have a specially poignant meaning, both for those who may be returning after an arduous and trying absence and for those on whom rests the responsibility and the privilege of preparing for the absent member of the family and community.

Though we recognize that the war is still far from over and that many anxious and difficult months and years stretch ahead before we can rejoice in the satisfactory culmination of our efforts, none the less in the natural course of events it is inevitable that the process of discharge of Service personnel already under way will, as time goes on, become an ever-increasing factor in our community life. Various categories of men and women are now commencing to utilize the Government rehabilitation program and it is obvious that, with expanding fronts and consequently increasing casualties, with changing types of warfare and the general wearing out of body and spirit, the numbers of repatriates and dischargees will steadily grow.

Rehabilitation or reabsorption into normal civilian life is a three-way process: it involves the official machinery of demobilization and re-establishment; the physical and emotional adjustment of the Service man or woman; and the understanding, receptiveness and facilities for service of the Canadian communities and the individuals who make up those communities.

"It is not too early now", said Robert England in 1943 in *Discharged*, "for every hamlet, every village, every town, every city and every rural community in the Dominion to plan that most effective memorial of the fallen—the re-establishment of their comrades who survive." In an effort to lay before our readers some of the aspects of this tremendous project, *WELFARE* is presenting this special Service number.

Coming home can be a disillusioning and embittering experience or it can be the opening of a new chapter of constructive and satisfying development. Rehabilitation services of governments can be effectual only as we the people make them work and contribute our share of effort in the process.



# HOME FRONT RESPONSIBILITY

**Group Captain S. N. F. Chant**

*Acting Director General of  
Rehabilitation, Department  
of Veterans Affairs.*

*Apart from winning the war, there is no problem of greater importance to the future of this country than that of successfully rehabilitating the hundreds of thousands of men and women in the Armed Forces. Failure in this regard will largely nullify any post-war reconstruction effort and will result in such dissension and distrust that the whole basis of our national stability will be undermined.*

**A**LTHOUGH there is evidence of a widespread interest in rehabilitation, comparatively few people appear to realize the magnitude of the problem or to appreciate the extent to which its complete success will require the united effort of all of our national and community resources. Too many people are inclined to assume that rehabilitation is almost wholly a matter to be dealt with by Government. It is true that the Dominion Government is obligated to provide in every way possible for the successful re-establishment of the members of our Armed Forces, but it cannot solve the whole problem. In keeping with our democratic principles, the Canadian public must be pre-

pared to share with the Government this responsibility.

## **GOVERNMENT AID**

FAR-REACHING legislation, already enacted, provides the basis for a very comprehensive rehabilitation program. Provision has been made for the payment of a clothing allowance, a rehabilitation grant and a war service gratuity. Under the Post-Discharge Re-establishment Order, grants are available for those who require academic, vocational or technical training. The Veterans' Land Act makes provision for those who will follow full-time farming, as well as for industrial and other workers who wish to acquire small acreages. Under the War Service Grants

Act, a grant that can be used for many purposes is available for those who do not apply their benefits toward training or land settlement. Provision for reinstating the veteran in his former job is made through the Reinstatement in Civil Employment Act. Allowances for those who are out of work, temporarily incapacitated or awaiting returns from farms or businesses are available. There is extensive legislation covering medical treatment, pensions and disability awards, as well as a Veterans' Insurance Act. The details of all such legislation are described briefly in a small booklet entitled *Back to Civil Life* which is available through the Department of Veterans Affairs and should be read by every interested Canadian.

Unquestionably all of this legislation is characterized by foresight and a realistic appreciation of the veteran's needs. The terms are generous and designed to remove practical difficulties from the way of the veteran as he begins his re-establishment. The Government departments responsible for the administration of these measures will display the same consideration for the needs of the veteran as is evident in the legislation. No effort will be spared to help returned men and women procure benefits without trouble, delay, vexation or expense to themselves.

The procedure of rehabilitation embraces three steps: (1) pre-discharge; (2) post-discharge; (3) the community.

#### STILL IN UNIFORM

THE pre-discharge stage commences at Naval, Military or Air Force units, both in Canada and overseas, where service men and women are given information and advice concerning their return to civil life. When later they report for discharge from the service, they will be more fully informed concerning the benefits and grants that are available for their assistance and given instructions concerning their procurement. They will then be counselled by trained officers who will review their service records and advise them concerning their rehabilitation plans.

#### OUT OF UNIFORM

THE post-discharge stage is carried out through Rehabilitation Centres established by the Department of Veterans Affairs in key cities and by Veterans' Welfare Officers stationed in many of the National Selective Service offices across Canada. At this stage, all arrangements are completed for implementing the veterans' rehabilitation plans and for supplying him with the benefits to which he is entitled under the terms of the various Acts. For convenience it is intended that as many as possible of the functions performed by the Rehabilitation Centre will be housed in one building, thus obviating any "run-around". Trained counsellors will be available to provide courteous, efficient service and advice concerning any problems that may cause him anxiety. Of course, every effort will be made to deter the veteran from wasting his benefits in foolish ways and to

protect him from being victimized by unscrupulous people. This will naturally create resentment and annoyance on the part of some veterans. There are few things that are more likely to create unpleasantness than trying to restrain someone from doing what he wants to do with what he considers to be his own money. However, the Department of Veterans Affairs would be remiss in its duties if it made no attempt to protect the veteran against ill-advised plans.

#### **BACK HOME**

THE third step is the community which is the culmination of the whole process. If the veteran does not become established as a successful and self-reliant citizen, his rehabilitation is incomplete. It is obvious that, with regard to hundreds of thousands of veterans, assistance afforded by the Dominion Government must terminate at some point. The Government provides generously but in the end the veteran must make his own way as a citizen. It is undesirable, from the standpoint of both the community and the man, to encourage the belief that veterans are perpetual wards of the Dominion Government. Such unwarranted paternalism would impair the whole aim of rehabilitation. The community must assume responsibility for solving the difficulties of veterans after the limit of government assistance has been reached. Canadian communities are now organizing to fulfil this responsibility.

In order to assist local communities, the Department of

Veterans' Affairs is authorized to aid the development of Citizens' Rehabilitation Committees throughout Canada. There is no intention that such committees should assume any administrative responsibility with regard to the Government's program. The Department of Veterans Affairs must accept full executive responsibility for running its program and any tendency on the part of local committees to assume that they share this responsibility will result only in confusion and misunderstanding. It is true that part of the function of these committees is advisory with regard to rehabilitation plans and procedures, but by far their greatest contribution will come through taking over the job from that point where government arrangements must leave off.

There are many community needs on the part of veterans which the Dominion Government cannot meet. For example, it can never transform a veteran from a stranger into a citizen who feels at home and interested in his community. Only his fellow citizens can aid him in this regard. Of course, all stages of the rehabilitation process must be closely linked together and the fullest co-operation must exist between the citizens' committees and the Government departments concerned.

#### **GET TOGETHER**

THE first function of the citizens' committees is to organize the various community resources—organizations, groups, agencies, employers—which can aid veterans, and it is also a responsibility of

the committee to co-ordinate their efforts and to integrate them with the government plan. Such co-ordination should protect the veteran from the danger of so many different people trying to do so much for him that he has no chance to do anything for himself.

A second function of the members of any citizens' committee is to become thoroughly informed regarding all aspects of the Government program and provide a means whereby correct information may be disseminated throughout the community. Veterans, their dependents and as many citizens as possible should be completely informed concerning these plans. The Government is rightly proud of them and the more widely all of their details are known, the more successfully will they function. The rehabilitation of veterans will depend more upon mutual goodwill and confidence than upon anything else. There must be goodwill on the part of the veteran toward the community, goodwill on the part of the community toward the veteran and goodwill on the part of both toward the Government and its representatives. To build this goodwill is a task of the greatest importance and one which the citizens' committees can advance more effectively than can any other agency.

#### START NOW

OF COURSE, many local groups are becoming increasingly anxious to get some veterans and to start to work on them. It is only natural that they should. The fact of the matter is, however, that with

nearly all of our Forces still on active service and plenty of jobs for those who have returned, there are not enough veterans to go around. There are, however, many things that can be done *now* for the veteran before his return, rather than waiting to do something for him on his arrival. *Now* is the time to prepare for his return and to plan his welcome.

#### THE TEST

THE answers to many questions which relate to this third stage of rehabilitation are still lacking; many can be supplied only by the community. Answers to the following can be sought *now*:

**Houses** What housing accommodation is going to be available for veterans in your community? If there isn't any, or if it is unsuitable, what do you intend to do about it? If your committee really wants to help veterans, finding homes for them where apparently none exist is a good hard job to tackle.

**Jobs** What jobs are available for veterans? If no one knows the answer, a job survey should be conducted. What effort has been made to find good jobs for seriously handicapped veterans? This requires detailed information regarding job specifications so that such men may be suitably placed.

**Businesses** What do you know about the opportunities for veterans to establish small businesses? Many men will probably seek rehabilitation in this way. Is your committee cultivating some business opportunities for them?

**Schools** What kind of conditions are the families of those who will return as veterans living under now? One thing the men will resent, and rightly so, will be people trying to rehabilitate them who showed no concern for the welfare of their families while they were at war.

What kind of schools does your community provide for the veteran's children? Have they deteriorated during the war? If so, what do you plan to do about them?

**Recreation** What type of recreational facilities will your community provide for the veteran and his family? Are there any post-war plans in this regard?

**Legal Aid** Have you made provision for voluntary legal and financial advice for veterans? Or do you intend just leaving him to the mercy of sharpers.

There are many other such questions that need answering *now*, which affect the rehabilitation of veterans.

#### SKILL NEEDED

TRAINED social workers can play a large part in much of this planning. In large communities at least, the welfare of veterans and

their dependents will require the advice of professional social workers. It is too great a task for amateurs to handle unassisted, but do professional social workers thoroughly appreciate some of the types with which they will have to deal? If not, have the case-working agencies enlisted the aid of veterans of this or the last war to give some interpretation of the attitudes and outlook of returned men and women? If not, it should be helpful to do so. There will be some veterans who will be tough, resentful and unappreciative of even the best efforts on their behalf and, precisely on this account, they are the ones who need the most help.

There is ample work for all who want it, regarding rehabilitation. Much of it is not spectacular. Quite a bit of it may never bring the worker into actual contact with veterans. But these are the jobs which need doing most and if community groups are really interested in the welfare of veterans, rather than\*in the satisfaction of working directly with them, these are the jobs to do. They are the jobs which will have the most enduring value in transforming the fighting man into a peacetime citizen.

THE TASK of helping the veteran in his personal relationships is one to tax the skill of the well-trained and talented social worker. As much as circumstances permit, we must rely upon the social workers to do this job. They are, however, many cases that amateurs must handle on their own, with no chance to call in the doctors of human relationships, and there are aspects of all cases which must be handled by the veteran's family, friends, and community. Every employer, every wife or mother of a veteran, many teachers and preachers should therefore become as expert as they can in veteran psychology.

—Willard Waller, *The Veteran Comes Back*.



*Through the courtesy of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, WELFARE is able to print this excellent address, given over the CBC Trans-Canada network in The Soldier's Return series, December 6, 1944.*

## THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING VALUED

MAJOR-GENERAL G. BROCK CHISHOLM,  
*Deputy Minister of National Health*

During the months or years that are ahead of us many thousands of men and women will be leaving the Services to become civilians. Many of them were "civilians", in the full meaning of the word, before they joined the Services. On the other hand very many others joined the Navy, Army or Air Force directly out of school, and these young people have never occupied the place of grown-up men or women in a civilian community. This process of becoming a civilian, either again, or for the first time, is generally called rehabilitation.

Obviously there is no standard problem because of the great variety in age, experience, education, and training, whether civilian or service—and also because many of these men and women may suffer from disabilities

### *New Year's Resolutions*

To be tolerant

To be helpful

Never to answer back

Never to be sarcastic

Never to show hurt feelings

Never to try to hurt back

Never to sulk or freeze up

Adjust ourselves

—Page 10

acquired in service. There are however, certain features of their individual problems which are common to all.

Cmdr. Jack Jones has fought a Canadian ship through many actions and has given leadership to a crew of Canadian seamen under unbelievably difficult circumstances; Pte. Bill Smith has developed great skill with a Bren gun or flame thrower, and has repeatedly offered his own life in the service of a cause; Flying Officer Harry Brown as part of an R.C.A.F. team has faced blazing enemy guns and done a job in spite of all the enemy could throw at him; all these have something in common. W.R.C.N.S. or C.W.A.C. or R.C.A.F. (W.D.) Mary White also belongs in this group as she too has shared their devotion to a cause and their willingness to sacrifice for a great purpose.

These men and women have changed since they left home. They have learned much, experienced widely and in the process have developed and grown greatly. They are no longer boys and girls. They have become truly men and women, who have been carrying great responsibilities, and who can become the greatest assets Canada has ever had. If they are to continue to be as valuable to this country in peace time as they have been in wartime—then the transition from the Services to civilian life must be made successfully. And this means preserving all the assets they have gained during recent years.

Many of them have acquired specific assets in technical skills and experience given to them in the Services. Such of these skills as have an application to peace time industries will be immediate assets in the adjustment to civilian life. However, many of them, perhaps on the whole the best of them, have devoted their lives for some years to intensive training in weapons used to kill the enemy. The assets they have acquired are assets of personality—they have learned devotion and self-sacrifice, initiative and leadership. These developments in personality represent an enormous potential gain to Canada, but the training of the skilled Brengunner will have no peacetime application. These are the men for whom becoming civilians will be most difficult and will take the longest. In the life which has become normal for them, they have felt themselves to be

masters of their craft of warfare. They are highly valuable citizens in their Service environment, greatly admired for their skill, their bravery and their ability to work in harmony with others of their team. The emotional relationship between these fighting men is proverbially close and mutually trusting. They know that they can depend on each other and themselves to the utmost. Now, the problem for all Canadians is to preserve what these men have gained and to help them to continue to be the most valuable possible citizens—valuable both to themselves and to Canada.

It's clear that rehabilitation is not *just* a problem in economics. It can't be effected by *just* handing out money or even jobs to all these men and women. While these things are very important, the real necessity involves a readjustment to a different kind of living under entirely different circumstances. While it's very desirable from the point of view of the nation that the returned servicemen and women should be absorbed as completely and as quickly as possible into the civilian community, it must be accepted that this will be a slow process, at least in many cases. However, there is every hope that almost all of them will eventually be civilians in fact.

Pte. Bill Smith, who has just won a world war, is in his own feelings and in fact, a very important person indeed. This feeling of importance and personal value, which is carefully built up in all the Services, has become over a

period of years, a necessary condition of his emotional life. It will continue to be necessary for him even though he stops being a sailor, a soldier or an airman. It has been largely by virtue of his feeling of value and of being valued that he has been able to live up to the very difficult standards required of him in the Services. The feeling of value and of being valued needs to be preserved to carry him through the difficult period of adjustment to become a civilian.

The civic receptions, the welcoming with bands, flags and parades, are all obvious signs of appreciation of what these men and women have done for us—and they're all helpful in preserving this feeling of value. But after the memory of the civic reception wears off, the hardest job begins. It's largely the responsibility of the civilian community to see that Jack Jones goes on being valuable and that his belief in that value becomes permanent. He must feel that the community wants him, that there is work for him to do, which is valuable to the community, and that he can count on civilians generally to work with him as a team—as he has been able to count on those with whom he has lived in the Service. This doesn't mean that he should be babied and looked after and given everything he wants, but rather that he should be helped to assume responsibility and to fulfil a useful function in the civilian community.

We should be prepared to find that the returned serviceman may

not be satisfied with his home community as he finds it when he comes back. He may well be impatient of many of the little certainties (like table manners) he finds about him at home, because he has found that other people in this or other countries may have different conventions. He has been dealing in the big issues of life and death and international affairs. He may feel little interest in things which may seem to be of great importance to his family and friends. At the same time the family and friends may find themselves impatient with the ex-serviceman's reminiscences. He'll want to dwell on scenes and relationships which have no present application to the circumstances of the family or the community. It's very important that we should all appreciate the necessity for adjustment on both sides—not on just one or the other. Eventually we hope the serviceman will become a real peacetime citizen. In order to do this he will get more and more interested in civilian matters. *But* if the civilian environment is to become tolerable to the returned serviceman, it will have to provide him with the emotional satisfactions he needs. This can be done only by a broadening of the interests and concerns of his family and friends. He can't be expected to confine himself entirely to family budgets and the neighbour's cat. He has learned to become part of a vast community and he needs to retain his community interest and value. These interests require his active partici-

pation in community efforts, in service clubs, municipal politics, lodges, study groups, community centres and church organizations. He can participate actively and give leadership in young people's groups, Boy Scouts, Big Brothers, and many other organizations. He'll need these interests as much as they need him.

If the returning serviceman does not succeed in becoming a citizen in this broad sense, he'll be able to find a feeling of community of interest *only* with other returned servicemen. Any necessity for such segregation of returned servicemen would be an indication of their failure to become civilians. This should not be interpreted as a criticism of returned servicemen's organizations. They too have a valuable place, and a job to do. Particularly they can bridge the gap between the veterans of the first and second World Wars, but they should never be the *only*

places that ex-servicemen can find understanding and a community of interest.

We must all, civilians and returned servicemen alike, remember that the process of mutual adjustment which has to be gone through will not be completed overnight. It will in most cases be easier and quicker in those families which were well established before the war, but *all* the members of every family must help carry the responsibility. To be tolerant and helpful, never to answer back, never to be sarcastic, never to show hurt feelings or to try to hurt back, never to sulk or freeze up, to do any necessary adjusting *ourselves*—these are the New Years' resolutions we must all make and *keep*. This is not an easy program, but few things so well worth doing and so important *are* easy, and the future of Canada depends greatly on *our* ability to do just these things.

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### CONTROLLED OVERLAPPING

**A**LREADY our experience with veterans is proving that, just as a piece of plywood composed of thin panels of wood pressed together is stronger than a solid piece of wood of the same dimensions and weight, a certain amount of *controlled* overlapping adds strength to social work programs. . . . The agencies administering the services should not compete with one another. Each agency should be fully aware of the total resources of the community. There should be a strong central referral and information service able to draw in specialists as needed. Specialization, however, should remain in the background until sufficient rapport has been established with the veteran so that referral to a specialized agency does not seem to him to be "part of the runaround" but rather a logical extension of friendly and thoughtful service.

*Community, December, 1944.*

# SELF-HELP PROGRAM OF AIR FORCE

[[ SQUADRON OFFICER MARY CLARKE, M.B.E.,  
*Special Services Officer (Welfare), R.C.A.F. (W.D.)*

*The Fund is yours—use it and support it* is the slogan of the R.C.A.F. Benevolent Fund and the principle underlying those words is apparent in the development and method of operation of the fund. Over three-quarters of a million dollars has already accumulated to the credit of this non-profit sharing company, which was incorporated in 1944 under Part II of the Companies Act, and there is every reason to believe that this sum will continue to multiply not only throughout the war years but in the postwar period also.

The R.C.A.F. Benevolent Fund was initiated in 1934 by a group of World War I flyers and interested persons who saw the need for some means of relieving unusual situations of distress among personnel during and after service. Its purpose throughout has been to help men and families over the crises which caused unprepared-for disruption in the lives of R.C.A.F. or former R.C.A.F. personnel or to bridge the gaps that so often exist between the individual's pressing need and the normal community means for meeting that need.

It is essentially a private or voluntary fund. Composed of monies derived from the profits of canteens which are operated by the R.C.A.F. on all units and augmented by donations, it is primarily the product of the contribu-

tions of the men and women themselves through the purchases they make at their own canteens of goods of all sorts.

As would be expected in view of its incorporation, the fund operates under a Board of Directors with officers and with Provincial Committees. The actual administrative work is carried on from A.F.H.Q. in Ottawa and the means whereby participation becomes available are as follows. The airman or woman who wishes to obtain a loan or a grant from the fund applies to the Accounts Officer on his station. An application form is filled in and is passed on to the Welfare Committee on the station, which consists usually of the Padre, the Accounts Officer, the W.D. Unit Officer and any other officer whom the C.O. may designate, with the Command Welfare Officer a member ex-officio of all such committees. The applicant is interviewed by this committee, which in this way is able to secure more intimate detail regarding the airman's situation than would be possible from the bare bones of the form. A decision is reached as to the desirability of using the fund under the particular circumstances and the recommendation is forwarded to the Claims Committee of the Benevolent Fund at A.F.H.Q. with full recommendation as to whether the assistance should

be in the form of a grant or a loan (loans are made at 2% interest).

As the need is often of an emergency nature, each unit has an operating account from which it may make immediate loans. The amount advanced is reimbursed and if a loan is arranged the airman's promissory note is returned to the station and the agreed amount deducted from his pay by the Accounts Officer.

Dependents of casualties or of men who are overseas also have access to the fund and the method of procedure in this instance differs somewhat in detail as there is no airman in Canada to initiate the action. In such cases the dependent makes application to the Benevolent Fund at A.F.H.Q., which refers the application to the unit nearest to the dependent's residence or to the Provincial Committee, whichever is likely to provide the quicker service. The dependent is interviewed either by a member of the Provincial Committee or by a local social agency and the recommendation is made in the manner described earlier.

Great interest has been shown in the type of service being rendered through this special fund. Care has been taken to see that it does not overlap with existing government resources, such as the Supplementary Grants Fund under the Dependents' Board of Trustees. On some occasions money is advanced to meet emergency needs

pending investigation and approval by D.B.T. but in many instances the service is given to meet situations which would not have eligibility under D.B.T. regulations, such as emergency needs of airmen on special leave without pay, unusual medical or surgical expenses of the dependent of a commissioned officer, or the continued payment in a special case of the equivalent of his assigned pay to the mother of an airman reported missing.

The Board and the officers administering the fund are planning and hoping that in the years after the war the fund will be an increasingly valuable resource not only for airmen and women and their families by direct application but also by incorporation in general community planning for the welfare of R.C.A.F. personnel and dependents. It is anticipated that the fund will be used for the unusual and special needs of people and families which do not fall within ordinary categories of assistance, such as educational loans and other constructive programs which are not necessarily based on dire need. The R.C.A.F. Benevolent Fund is a resource which, if constructively utilized and built upon, may prove of inestimable value in helping to provide special opportunities for air-force people and form an important cog in voluntary civilian services of the future.



# Veterans' Welfare

## The Legion's View

J. C. G. HERWIG,

*General Secretary, The Canadian Legion*



WHEN a fighting man enlists in one of the services he begins a new way of life. He is immediately cut adrift from civilian ties and occupations. Even the making of a living ceases to engage his attention for a period. He cannot share in discussions or have a hand in deciding issues in office, factory or farm. He learns a new job. Many of the things he learns to do are not permitted in times of peace. If he tried to do them, he would find himself in jail or in worse trouble. When he returns home he will have lost practical touch with civil life.

At the conclusion of the last war our men were told they would return to a country "fit for heroes to live in", but they were soon disillusioned. They hardly knew what to expect but whatever it was, the promises soon sounded like empty words. Of course, in theory, Canadians wanted their fighting men to have the very best deal possible. But when it became a matter of individual rehabilitation, it was an entirely different story and large numbers of veterans found themselves at a decided disadvantage.

Out of the shattered illusions following the last war, the Canadian Legion of the British Empire

Service League was born. It was organized in 1925, uniting many groups of war veterans throughout the Dominion. These groups while having the same primary objective often found themselves working against each other. But following their unification within the Legion, a large body of Canadian ex-service men began to speak with one voice and to get behind sane and practical policies in behalf of veterans generally but particularly the disabled and their dependents and the bereft. These policies are all determined democratically at Dominion Conventions where delegates from all parts of the Dominion thrash them out in committee and open debates.

Following the conclusion of the last war the Federal Government came to assume responsibility for the war disabled veteran and has continued to do so ever since. Entitlement established he was compensated by pension for his disabilities and, if unemployed and pension was inadequate for maintenance, a special relief rate was supplied. As the majority of pensions are paid at low rates and the physically handicapped usually find the greatest difficulty in maintaining themselves in employment, the unemployed war pensioners

were numerous and substantial relief payments became necessary during the depression years. Much of Legion service work for veterans of the last war, therefore, arose out of these difficulties.

However, the vast majority of the men who served overseas were not pensioned, and the rehabilitation plans for their benefit were entirely inadequate. In fact, their lot soon became that of the ordinary civilian whose hardships they shared during the depression years which affected Canada as well as almost every other country in the world. By that time, any voluntary preferential treatment accorded to the ex-service men by their employers, other than the Federal Civil Service, in the immediate post-war period ceased to exist. Day in day out veterans were found congregating in the employment exchanges and in relief queues.

#### **THE NON-PENSIONED VETERAN**

THE Legion, and soon the Government, therefore, began to think about the plight of the non-pensioned veteran as well as the disabled. The first group to receive attention were the ageing veterans who could not find employment or, if they did, could not hold it. In order to deal with this class, the War Veteran's Allowance Act came into being in 1930. It provided a monthly allowance of \$20, single, and \$40, married, to veterans with service in an actual theatre of war who had reached the age of sixty or who, by reason of physical or

mental handicaps, were unable to support themselves or their families before reaching that age. This amount has since been raised to \$30 for a single person and \$60 for a married person, respectively, where no other income is available. Provision is made in the Act for earnings from casual labour and other restricted types of income, the total, including the allowance, not to exceed \$500 per year for a single person and \$855 for a married man. The immediate effect of this measure was to remove from the labour market a large number of ageing veterans.

The War Veterans' Allowance Act has become the social security measure of the Canadian fighting man and his widow. Its provisions were recently extended to veterans of this war. Beneficiaries are limited to those who serve in an actual theatre of war or who are in receipt of small pensions. Recently widows of men who served in an actual theatre of war or who were pensioned have also been included, together with orphan children.

However, there still remains a large number of veterans who served overseas but who are adjudged not to have served in an actual theatre of war that the Legion hopes will eventually be brought into the Act. Failing this, many of this class of veterans who become unemployable will be obliged to seek relief from ordinary civilian channels and, unless Canada's whole relief set-up undergoes reform, the Legion will again campaign for better treatment for this class of veterans.

Canadians will not tolerate another period of depression such as they experienced before the war. Whatever the causes of depression may be, the old method of dealing with its sufferers will have to be changed. As far as the veteran is concerned, surely he has earned from his country the right to four essential needs—adequate food, shelter and clothing, and an opportunity to earn a good living. If he secures the latter, he will take care of the first three. But failing this, adequate maintenance must be supplied wherever the need exists. Indeed, we believe that *all* Canadians are entitled to the same consideration.

#### THE VETERANS OF TODAY

FIGHTING men of today depend, as we of the Legion did in the last war, on those at home to look after their interests—not only to lay a firm foundation for reconstruction but also to see to it that they are not left at a disadvantage when opportunities for re-establishment are presented. The following principle of rehabilitation was presented to the Government in the early days of the war, and the Legion believes it to be reasonable and just and capable of fulfilment:

“That adequate steps be taken to ensure that those who volunteer for service shall in no way be penalized on their return to civil life and, so far as possible, shall be assured of that place in civil life which they might reasonably be assumed to have obtained had they not enlisted.”

Complete rehabilitation will mean to most men in the Forces

continuous employment with adequate remuneration and with ample opportunity for personal initiative, whether it be as an employee or as a proprietor of business or as a professional man or an executive. For the most part, our fighting men will still be young men after discharge. The sins of the past permitting mass unemployment, and sometimes almost inhuman methods of dealing with it, will remain just a bad dream to those who suffered it if our efforts at reconstruction succeed. If these fail, then they will know that they have fought in vain and so will we. But we want no disillusionment this time.

It is for this reason that the Legion desires to see the satisfactory determination of federal-provincial relations without which post-war reconstruction will be severely handicapped. Certainly men returning from this war will have the right to expect that the problems of federal-provincial relations as they affect national schemes of reconstruction will have been solved to bring about continuous employment. We believe that the co-operation of Federal, Provincial and Municipal Governments are necessary in many fields of endeavour and particularly in respect to rehabilitation and reconstruction plans that are intended to take up the surplus labour from industry and agriculture such as a national housing program, conservation projects and other public enterprises. Co-operation will also be necessary in the development of adequate social security

measures, especially to overcome the unreasonable pre-war disparity of treatment as between province and province, municipality and municipality of people needing assistance.

The results of this war will show that it is the best educated nations, with the fewest inhibitions and prejudices, which will have emerged victorious. Education has heretofore been considered entirely a matter for provincial development. But experience has clearly shown that some co-ordination of effort, standards and practice is necessary.

#### **CANADIAN LEGION EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

A GREAT deal of useful work has already been done by Canadian Legion Educational Services in the setting up of an educational system, parts of which have been adopted by the armed forces for their own purposes and other parts of which are available to those in the forces who desire them.

The textbooklets of this system, and the tests and examinations up to senior matriculation used in connection therewith, have been accepted by the educational authorities in every province and by the universities. It is the first time in the history of Canada that an agreement of this nature has ever been obtained.

This system can and should be continued, expanded and extended to both ex-service men and women, and to civilians when the war is over. The present educational system in Canada discriminates

against the rural population and those living at a distance from the centres of education—particularly as regards higher education. In general, the Legion feels that a great deal can and must be done in the field of education—and to this end jurisdictional difficulties must be removed—to create a real national spirit and unity in this country.

#### **PREFERENTIAL EMPLOYMENT**

THE education of the severely handicapped veteran on his return to civil life presents a challenge that is unique as far as our present educational establishments are concerned. They should and must receive special treatment, and it is our opinion that a great deal more can be accomplished towards the scientific placement of such individuals in both civil service and industry than heretofore.

Already during the present war we have seen men who are amputation cases of one type or another fit themselves into industry with a minimum of help. In fact, the main requisite has been proper equipment, the right kind of job and a good deal of encouragement. The Legion hopes that the time is past when such jobs as running an elevator, for example, are the only ones reserved for severely disabled veterans in factories, commercial establishments or Government departments.

There are between seven and eight hundred thousand men and women in the Canadian forces. It is the Legion's contention that any of these men and women who seek

employment, and especially those who have served overseas, should be given special consideration by employers. While we are sure that employers generally will not need to be reminded of their individual and collective debt to those who have risked their lives in their country's service, nevertheless we believe that some definite method will have to be arrived at in order to apply a preference which we are sure everyone will wish to extend.

Such a preference has been in operation, as far as the Federal Civil Service is concerned, since the last war, but the application of the principle to all industry will require the co-operation of management, labour unions, the Government and the veterans themselves. The Legion believes that where sacrifice is involved in any industry as between the man who risked his life for his country and the individual who first entered the industry during the war, the veteran should be in the preferred position.

Undoubtedly, the two most important factors in solving any unemployment problem that may arise in Canada following the war will be a proper planning for the conversion of war industry to peace, and the orderly demobilization of our armed forces.

#### **FROM WAR TO PEACE**

WE BELIEVE, too, the change-over from a war-time to a peace-time basis should be gradual. This is likely to occur if one of our chief enemies continues fighting after the other has capitulated. Rather

than precipitate too great a dislocation of our industrial population immediately following the cessation of hostilities, some war industries should be continued for a time. It is also the Legion's opinion that a substantial permanent military establishment will have to be maintained by Canada in all three services after the war.

One aspect of Canadian life will have to be treated with the seriousness it deserves by Governmental authorities. It is a well publicized and commonly known fact that 50% of the men who offered themselves for service were rejected on medical grounds—35% for physical disability, and 15% for emotional instability. Much of the trouble is undoubtedly due to lack of nutrition.

Physical fitness is, to a large extent, dependent upon adequate subsistence. The Legion believes that the people of this country must now face this issue as one of the basic needs of our reconstruction program, and action on a permanent basis should be taken immediately to deal with it even if considerable sums of money are involved. We are conscious of the fact that many sufferers are the children of veterans of the last war.

Canadians must come to realize that, if we are to have the country we all so much desire, sacrifices are necessary during peace as well as during war. If sacrifice of special privileges or prerogatives or even money, in the form of taxes, is demanded of citizens of this country to bring about the necessary changes, our fighting men will



expect that such sacrifice will be imposed and undertaken willingly for the common good.

The Legion has no pet theories on the question of finance. It believes Canada has resources and the intelligence to see to it that at least the basic necessities for its people, namely, food, shelter, fuel and clothing, are amply provided and properly distributed and to insure a reasonable standard of subsistence for those, who, for some reason beyond their control, are unable to maintain themselves. The Legion maintains that in a democratic country the people have a right to tell their legislators the results they want in the field of social welfare and to expect that a determined effort will be made to attain them. We believe the people of Canada generally and certainly veterans are no longer prepared to accept a postponement of social progress because they are told that the country cannot afford it.

#### **HOW THE LEGION OPERATES**

THE Legion has 1,824 branches and ladies' auxiliaries in Canada and the United States. Each branch is autonomous in its own area. There are nine Provincial Commands in Canada and four State Commands in the United States. These Provincial and State Commands are responsible for organization in their respective jurisdictions. They hold Provincial or State Conventions annually

at which policies are laid down governing matters within their jurisdictions and resolutions are prepared for consideration at a Dominion Convention. This convention is held bi-annually and determines the major policies of the organization.

The Legion maintains a free service to individual veterans in connection with the adjustment of claims for pension or treatment or on behalf of dependents. Expert advice and advocacy is provided in connection with all statutory benefits available to veterans. The Legion keeps close contact with Government officers in connection with the development of the rehabilitation program for veterans of this war and has already dealt with a large number of individual cases. The Legion also works in co-operation with other welfare organizations to their mutual advantage.

Covering as it does the whole Dominion, no veteran of any war need feel that he is without comrades to turn to for advice or assistance in dealing with any problem that might confront him. It is the hope of the Legion that when veterans of the present war are demobilized they will share the work of the organization with the men of the last war and, as the years roll by, take over full control, extending the Legion's influence and usefulness in behalf of those it serves and to the glory of Canada and the Empire.



# Down To The Sea

HELEN J. BURGESS,

*General Secretary, Halifax Welfare Bureau*

THOSE who are born and bred by the sea, who have the tang of salt sea breezes in their veins as well as in their lungs are accustomed to the idea of going down to the sea in ships and doing business in great waters. The sea to them is a trade, an industry, and an adventure, but it is more. It is symbolic of the infinitude and the omnipotence of "Him who plants His footsteps in the sea and rides upon the storm." The never-failing regularity of the tides, the marvel of the mists, drawn from the sea by the sun to enrich the earth in the form of gentle fog or torrential rain. These and all the miracles of nature connected with the sea are part of the very life fabric of the natives of Nova Scotia.

For generations the men and youth of this sea-girt province have been going out to the vast expanse of the Atlantic, as fishermen or merchant seamen. There have also been the many vocations along the shore such as channel marking and charting, shipbuilding, pilot service for the harbours, and lighthouse-keeping. The families of sea-going men have been trained in the traditions of their predecessors bravely to keep the home fires burning while their men folk are voyaging to the tropics, to the Orient, around the Horn, or facing the perils of the ice-strewn waters of the Arctic. These women,

*I must down to the sea again,  
For the call of the running tide  
Is a wild call and a clear call  
That may not be denied.*

JOHN MASEFIELD.

wives and mothers of seamen, have been schooled courageously to experience anxiety and loneliness for months and years at a time.

These descendants from the days of wooden ships and iron men were among the very first to offer their services in the defence of their country and not until the complete story of this tragic war is told will the people of Canada know how much they owe to the men who have defended our shores from a cunning enemy. In destroyers, corvettes, submarine-chasers and mine-sweepers the men of Canada have gone out in fair weather and foul. Many will never return.

It takes a war to rediscover this little seaport city of Halifax, which suddenly becomes as cosmopolitan as London or New York with men from forty-three nations registered at its Navy League Merchant Seamen's Club. It has to be the temporary home of so many men and women that it is not surprising to see nests of canteens and service clubs in every section of the city. Nor is it surprising to find wives and families from many parts of Canada living a rather lonely existence while their men are afloat

and waiting for the bright spots made by the occasional stay ashore. These wives have remained at home faithful to their task of caring for the children, managing their home and saving their pennies. They have held their steadfast look while they bid their husbands goodbye, knowing full well the perils and hazards of the sea, but keeping back their tears until the whir of the taxi told them that at last they could give vent to their suppressed emotions. They have sensed the imminence of departure from the instant their discerning minds noted that indefinable quietness on the part of their husbands, which said only too plainly that shore duties were over and they were drafted to a ship again. They have faced up to the many days and nights of loneliness that followed, the days filled with duties and the mind occupied with the small household tasks. But in the evening when the children are tucked in bed there are so many hours in which to think long thoughts. It is then that fears of all kinds make their inroads on the human mind.

The majority of the wives of our service men are of this stamp but there has been so much talk of the unfaithful wives that those women of honour and integrity are

forgotten in the complexity of problems that develop as a result of the few. Not all young wives, though, have been fortunate enough to be endowed with stability and the strength to carry on home and family in strange and often disinterested surroundings with husband and father far away. To some of these the anguish of loneliness is augmented by the knowledge that often she is not quite playing the game with her absent partner and a sense of guilt adds to the already conflicting emotions and often may cause a hard and unapproachable exterior to develop. To understand these emotions and to help in building more firmly the home and family ties is the task and privilege of the social worker, who recognizes the importance to the returning sailor of a stable home and to his wife the need for understanding and wholesome activity.

Social workers must assume an important role in this drama of human relations. During the war years we have had to meet certain responsibilities, but as the men return these responsibilities will increase a hundredfold. We must prepare ourselves and outline our policies now to meet the intensified opportunities that lie ahead.

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**D**EMILITARIZATION involves helping the veteran adjust to the ways of civilian life, but it also involves helping the family and the neighbourhood adjust to the presence and personality of the veteran. Hence, service must be on a "family" basis, often with the primary treatment being directed toward the wife, children, or parents, rather than toward the veteran himself. . . . Always, behind the processes of demilitarization stands a man, and behind the man a family, whose joint happiness depends upon the restoration and perpetuation of understanding both within the family and in the family's relationship to the community.

*Community, December, 1944.*

# New Hope for the Disabled

H. C. HUDSON,

*Supervisor of Special Placement Operations,  
Unemployment Insurance Commission*

**N**EW social attitudes emerge from the fiery crucible of war. Simultaneously with our improved techniques in killing and maiming, not only soldiers, but also civilians, there come advances on the medical front. Sulfa drugs, penicillin, and new forms of medical treatment save human lives, but frequently have the result of adding to the relative numbers of disabled persons seeking employment, particularly among our overseas forces and among the bombed-out civilian population of Great Britain.

With more disabled persons confronting us, more attention is paid to their problems. A specific result in this connection has been the passing of the Disabled Persons (Employment) Bill by the British House of Commons in January, 1944. Space does not permit an examination of the details of this Act, but possibly its most significant feature is its changed attitude towards placement problems of the disabled. It recognizes the principle that a physical handicap is not necessarily an occupational handicap. This is an entirely new point of view which should bring encouragement to those suffering from physical disabilities whether caused by congenital disease, public or other accident, or by enemy action.

Although we have no all-out pro-

gram of civilian rehabilitation in Canada, the Unemployment Insurance Commission has recognized the need for specific attention to the problems of the handicapped and has established what are known as Special Placements Sections in the larger Employment and Selective Service Offices across Canada. The officers working in these Special Sections receive training which includes the following fundamental principles:

The physically handicapped person, when properly placed in employment, is not vocationally handicapped.

The employer should accept a man for his abilities, not reject him because of his disabilities.

It is not what a man has lost that is important but what he has left.

Every handicapped person has a right to remunerative employment, and Canada will need the services of every man and every woman, we hope, in the reconstruction period.

Epileptics can sometimes be placed in pairs, so that one can help the other during attacks. Leg amputations can be fitted into widely varying types of jobs, depending on whether the amputation is above or below the knee. Arrested tuberculosis cases have different degrees of work tolerance; that is, some can work longer hours than others. You don't act on the assumption that a man who is hard of hearing can necessarily be given a job in a boiler shop because he

can't hear the noise. Perhaps he can *feel* it, depending on the nature of his deafness.

All these, and many other points are important in the selection of a handicapped person for a specific job. The proper techniques for the placement of different types of handicaps are being made known to officers working in the Special Placements Sections. In the last analysis, all "hirings" are on an individual basis, but this principle applies to its fullest extent in matching the disabled person with a job which he will be able to perform on a strictly competitive basis.

Following largely the pattern outlined and successfully pursued in the United States, the Special Placements Sections are developing selective placement for the handicapped. Briefly, that involves, first, an examination of the job from the point of view of the actual physical demands of the occupation; second, an analysis of the man from the point of view of his physical capacities. Practically no job requires full physical fitness. One would think that a fighter-pilot would need to be physically perfect — but Wing-Commander Bader was a fighter-pilot with two artificial legs. One might believe that the most important administrative post in the United States required full physical fitness. President Roosevelt has amply demonstrated the contrary.

Strangely enough a physical handicap can even be an occupational advantage. To take an extreme case, an aeroplane company

in the United States employs close to one hundred midgets who can readily rivet portions of the plane inaccessible to persons of normal height. Coming closer to home, an employer recently reported to the Unemployment Insurance Commission that, by engaging a person unable to hear or speak, output had been increased on a shirt-pressing job by the elimination of unnecessary conversation.

The Employment and Selective Service Officers are embarking on a program of analyzing jobs to ascertain exactly what physical capacities are essential. Canadian veterans of the last war and of this one have shown quite definitely that they have been able to return to their former jobs or to take over even more important responsibilities—some by the use of artificial appliances and some without this help. The Winnipeg Office of the Employment Service recently placed an arm amputation case in an office job following training provided by the Government, and it is interesting to note that his pre-war occupation was that of elevator operator. Too frequently in the past, the opposite condition has prevailed, and the office worker who has lost a limb has become an elevator operator.

Probably the most difficult obstacle in the way of successful placement of the physically handicapped lies in certain misconceptions on the part of the employer. Some of these may be mentioned. The first is liability to a second accident. Actually, statistics of Workmen's Compensation Boards

indicate that the person who has suffered an accident is less of a risk than the physically fit worker, simply because he is more careful. A second objection is the fear of a higher degree of absenteeism due, in the case of a leg disability, to the difficulties of getting to work, for example, during a snow storm. Again, figures compiled by employers interested in this problem have shown that this is not the case. If the handicapped person has the right attitude—and most of them have—he will get to work no matter what the difficulties may be, simply because he knows he is being watched on this point.

The question of labour turnover is one where the advantage lies definitely with the handicapped group. Realizing their difficulties in securing employment, they are less likely to move from job to job.

A tangible but none-the-less real factor in the successful performance of persons suffering from serious disabilities is their spirit. Countless examples might be given, such as Major Alexander P. de Seversky, author of *Victory Through Air Power*, who says he owes his successful career through losing a leg, or Pete Gray, who decided he would be—and is—a professional ball player after losing an arm at the shoulder. Lieutenant-Colonel E. A. Baker, M.C., and Major E. A. Dunlop, as well as Captain Allan Piper typify the determination of the Canadian ex-servicemen to take their place in the life of Canada in spite of serious disabilities. They, as well as countless examples amongst

civilian handicapped persons, are a positive encouragement to their fellows who have made adjustments to physical handicaps. Employers who have, under the stress of labour shortage, engaged the so-called handicapped man have found that he is like his fellows in more respects than he is different and that he almost invariably brings to his work those qualities of reliability and loyalty which make him an entirely satisfactory worker.

An employer in Winnipeg who has amputation cases, persons who are deaf or hard of hearing, and those with defective vision on his payroll stated at a public meeting organized by the Special Placements Division that the handicapped men and women in his employ would be the last to be laid off rather than the first, in the post-war period.

It is not the intention of Special Placements to duplicate community services already available. The splendid facilities built up by local, provincial, and national organizations on behalf of the blind, the amputations, the deaf and the hard-of-hearing, the arrested tuberculosis cases, and others are being utilized to the fullest possible extent on a mutually co-operative basis.

It is worthy of note that many of the larger employing groups have long ago recognized their responsibility to workers injured in their own plants. With or without the co-operation of the various provincial Workmen's Compensation Boards, employers, such as

the mines, the railways, the textile industry, and others have canvassed the situation thoroughly in order to find suitable employment for their own people. The part played by Special Placements in this phase of the rehabilitation program is to assist the employer, through selective placement techniques, to fit the man back into a job which will make the maximum use of his abilities rather than merely to reinstate him as a guard, watchman, or elevator operator.

Close co-operation is also being developed with the newly-organized Disability Training and Placement Branch of the Department of Veterans' Affairs. Where agencies interested in the problems of the handicapped are anxious to do so, encouragement and assistance are being given to

the formation of a centralized organization such as the Council for the Guidance of the Handicapped, established several months ago in Vancouver.

It is felt quite definitely that social service agencies can fit into the picture to the mutual advantage of all concerned, and, particularly, to the advantage of the handicapped worker seeking a job. Such agencies already have facilities whose effectiveness can be increased by the co-ordination of their efforts with the special placement work of the offices of the Unemployment Insurance Commission. The objective of all working in this field should be not merely to place handicapped persons in jobs but to place them in the best jobs of which they are capable.

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### WHAT EVERY MEETING PLANNER SHOULD KNOW

**C**HECK your quiz score, then read the answers on page 30 taken from *Planning Your Meeting*, by Ruth Haller, published by National Publicity Council, 130 East 22nd Street, New York 10. It consists of twenty pages and costs fifty cents but is worth more.

#### Questions

1. How many people should be in charge of a meeting?
2. How do you decide on a theme for a meeting?
3. How long should a meeting last?
4. At an annual meeting, should you present the whole story of your agency's year's work?
5. Is a written time schedule for the Chairman necessary?
6. How do you stir an audience to action?
7. Where should the meeting be held and at what time of day or evening?
8. Can an influential person be used as a speaker even though he may not have an intimate knowledge of the agency's work?
9. What is the planner's first duty to a speaker?
10. How can we make our meeting different?
11. How do you get out a good crowd?
12. What does Miss Haller say about publicity? Can *Planning Your Meeting* be borrowed from the Canadian Welfare Council?



**About 70% of rehabilitation  
is the serviceman's family.**

## Back to the Family

**KATHLEEN M. JACKSON,**  
*Executive Director, Family Welfare Bureau, Edmonton*

WITH excited children waving telegrams from daddy, many families are facing what is one of the most important experiences of their whole life . . . the return of the warrior. It would be nice to think that "they all lived happily ever after". Whether that will be true depends a great deal on what happens in the first few months or years. Veterans have been coming back in two's and three's to their home towns but the over-all figures show that more than 200,000 have been discharged from the Services. That means nearly a quarter of a million men and women are resuming their old lives, or making new ones.

They have seen service over a period ranging from a few months to more than five years and are coming home, many of them, with a knowledge of strange places, and of people with different creeds and colours from their own. Gentiles and Jewish people have perhaps been friends for the first time in their lives. Protestant boys bailing out over France have been hidden by the underground in convents disguised as Roman Catholic priests.

There's familiarity with death quite often and with war in its most horrible forms. Some of them

have achieved new maturity in that kind of atmosphere, and the boy whose mother called him "Baby" when he went away is now a battle-scarred soldier. They have learned about responsibility, have discovered new capabilities, and the meaning of co-operation. Piloting a flying bonfire home from Germany is a maturing experience, as is being strafed by a Stuka, or holding a bridge with one machine gun and little ammunition.

War today is a fast-moving impersonal business and takes no account of the individual. It is a far cry from the "troubles" in Ireland, where, after a battle between the Free Staters and the Sinn Fein, both sides were shown round the garden and greatly admired the antirrhinums, to a war in which a newspaper correspondent in a jeep gathers news from three countries in thirty minutes. The struggle of the serviceman to be a person, to be himself in spite of all this, is apparent in many ways, from his "crime sheet" to the way in which he hangs over a strange baby or cuddles a kitten when he thinks no one is looking.

In most discussions of rehabilitation, the family has been left lurking in the wings, probably

classified as "noises off", while the veteran holds the stage. Let's bring them out into the open and see what they have been doing and we'll find they have had their adventures too.

Women who never carried a purse because their husbands did all the family business have been handling pay and allowance cheques and discovering for the first time in their lives where you went to pay the light bill. They have learned to garden and to can their produce for the winter, in the absence of a husband whose lack of "green fingers" never troubled him. Not content with this they have moved out into their communities as Block Captains for the Citizens' Volunteer Bureau, and have collected their neighbours to plan organized recreation for their children and the children next door. "Ask your father" seems a bit antiquated now.

Did you ever buy an old house? The soldier who comes back to a home bought and furnished by his better half will have missed out on an adventure. Invisible muscles are grown during the process of coping with plumbers, and electricians, and handy men and the long drag while necessary expenses are met each month. There is star-spangled glory when the \$100 birthday present sent from Italy to buy something pretty goes to pay for a bath and wash-basin and the bathroom is completed.

There are adventures of the spirit too. Battles of loneliness are not always won, and wings and halo are conspicuously absent in a

healthy growing family. Immediate responsibilities to home and children seem more urgent than the call of country and few women have failed to resent at one time or another the apparent desertion of their men-folk. Some have fared worse than others under these conditions, for health, intelligence and emotional security are not given equally to all.

War brides who have tried to plan for the future, even delaying the purchase of dishes for the new home because "Bill loves to go in china stores", have moments of panic when snapshots arrive from overseas and they cannot recognize the man they married, or they say plaintively "but he looks so much older". Growing older happens to everyone, but when it happens to inexperienced and separated husbands and wives, the marriage that was to be such a lovely adventure looks hazardous.

Children who have never seen their fathers, or who do not remember them are going to ask "Mummy, who is that?" and Mummy is going to wonder whether she knows. Older children who have slipped into adolescence will ask, not unreasonably, "Who does that guy think he is?" when paternal authority is felt. And father will mutter that "Nobody loves me" and "Who did I fight this war for anyway?"

What happens now we've added father to that frequently heterogeneous combination of personalities known as the family? Well, here is one thing. The returning serviceman has probably spent a

good deal of time in England where civilians share all the experiences of modern war and know what acute hardship is too. He knows the moral difficulties inevitable with even a friendly army of occupation, and he has heard his share about the people back in Canada, and that awful thing Bill Jones' wife did to him. In spite of this he has likely idealized the family and the country that he left behind him, and some conflict in his mind is inevitable. His first Canadian newspaper may not always be reassuring with such headlines as *Jobless Benefits Being Exhausted, War Veteran Student Can't Find Home, Alleged Soldiers See Hand-outs, Four Firms Fined on Ration Counts, 800 Applicants Seek Positions*. He may wonder if Canada knows there is a war on and by the time he has heard a few complaints about the shortages, he is ready to go back to Italy and probably says so.

This is cheerful hearing for the little woman who has cleaned house and rushed out for a permanent because she has let her hair go, while she tried to keep a roof on the house and shoes on the children. She remembers Mrs. Smith whose husband has written for a divorce, and wonders if her returning hero was really interested in that blonde W.A.A.F. whom he met in an air-raid shelter. She may not go as far as the woman who said "It's a relief to know the women George meets now are enemies, and not those so grateful French girls", but she will have her thoughts, especially if her

George and she had been just average correspondents.

Small things can produce large problems and here is another little hazard. What happens when father says he met Bill Brown in France where he was running the "chat-cracker"? To find out what he is talking about and find out fast, is going to be the important business as the job of domesticating the returning male or female gets under way. And language will be one of the pitfalls for the unwary if an English bride has been added to that family set-up. She'll "talk funny" too, and her homesickness for things that are familiar to her will make her impatient with the people who do not know that a reel of cotton and a spool of thread are the same. Sympathy and understanding often begin with small things.

The housekeeping is going to have to be specially nice to show off that rose silk bedspread he sent from Rome, and when he shows a picture of himself feeding the pigeons outside St. Peter's Church we'll hope friend wife does not say "Peter who?" absentmindedly as she watches junior chewing the German revolver that is among his father's souvenirs. It would take several Cook's Tours to cover all the places some of our friends have been and those of us who have stayed at home could reach for the Atlas.

We'll need some give and take in the matter of recreation and social life. Men are returning with the idea that it is fun to date a wife, and they want to bowl and take in

a ball game. Remember, it's been easy for them to find girl friends who love to do just that. The occasional movie with a legal wedded wife who just dotes on Clark Gable, or church on Sunday evenings, is all right but they want something else besides. One man said "I never knew what fun people could have until I joined the Air Force". This was a sad shock to his wife whose interests were limited to the movies and the local kirk. "Why Miss" she said, "before the war 'e was a perfect 'usband". On being asked to define perfection she replied, "E never stirred out of the 'ouse without me". She loved the familiar rut and her panic when she realized that her husband did not want to return to the old ways was pathetic.

It's going to be hard for families to understand how the most even-tempered men have become so irritable and restless. A Crusader's Cross, a radio program, or a newspaper heading, is going to set off whole chains of unexpected and unfamiliar reactions. To expect them to forget what they have been through will be unwise because it is something they can never do and repression will be harmful. This generation of veterans is too new to be articulate but those of the last war can talk about their emotional difficulties. That an active service experience sinks in was clear in 1940 when men who had been civilians over twenty years, stormed up and down in front of their radios identifying themselves with the British

Army as it fell back on Dunkirk, past the towns they held in the last war.

Perhaps some of these seem like trivialities. Yet it is on the successful handling of such problems that much of the success of the rehabilitation program will hinge. These personal adjustments will colour the serviceman's attitude towards civilian life. Whether he steps back into his old job or takes advantage of vocational training, his behaviour will be conditioned by many different factors. Life will be hard for him unless he is emotionally stable enough to reach out to use and experiment with the available advantages. Even then it is hard to be a civilian again. In the Army, they made up his mind for him and while he hated it then, now it would look rather good to pass the responsibilities of all these decisions on to someone else, even if he grumbles at the inevitable regimentation of rehabilitation. That brief period of being a hero was all right even if it was hard to get up at the church social and tell what the King said to him at Buckingham Palace, but can he get a job and can he hold it against the surging restlessness of the first few months after discharge?

Whether enlistment took place straight from school or from employment, the question of emotionally satisfying work is vital, as well as the peace of mind to tackle it. A recent report that F/L . . . is home with his wife and parents since his discharge ends with the statement "He will be home for a month and is uncertain what he is

going to do after that". The country editor's statement covers a lot of ground, and families who want nothing better than to settle down, actually and psychologically, are going to have to put on their seven league boots and travel too.

Lacks in the community may militate against successful rehabilitation. It's awkward if there are not enough jobs for everyone and there may not be. Five men perhaps have enlisted from a single job. Suppose one of them goes back to it, what happens to the other four? Then there's the man who wants to take further technical training but he will not take this if it means further separation from wife and children because he cannot find a house for them in the city where he would have to go. Putting the children in an orphanage would not be his answer either.

Nationwide planning is essential and quite a lot of the servicemen know that. The frequent nominations of soldier candidates are important and conversation with returned men and their families indicates that they have a determination to express those views where they are likely to be effective. Legion meetings are going to be recognized "Nights out" for father. He is apt to be slipping around to the drill hall where there is comfort in a brief contact with a familiar way of life, and men who talk his language. Mothers may remember their own lonely evenings and be tempted to protest, but this yeastiness is inevitable.

To many of the social agencies in the community and to those others whose work lies in the area of human relationships, these problems are already very real. The man who won't speak to any friends his wife has made since he went away or the one who feels cheated because his wife didn't buy a house; the veteran who was discharged due to nervous breakdown but took work in a mental hospital because wages were good and he had a t.b. wife; and his pal, who hating the psycho-neurotic factors in his discharge, invents by way of compensation a career in Sicily—all these are real people and not the figment of a social worker's imagination. The files of Canadian social agencies contain many such examples.

We are told by experienced veterans that some of the problems that loom so large now will become less prominent when demobilization is a fact and all the men are home, not just the sick and disabled who feel they left their friends to finish a job half done. For that reason this article has avoided emphasizing the seriously disintegrated families, but has concentrated on the problems that we may anticipate for the average man and his family on their way back to civilian life.

What is our responsibility while this process goes on? First, let us strengthen our community resources so that the great number of returning men and women who will work out their problems without recourse to the social agencies, will have some place to turn for



acceptance and fellowship, whether in church or community league. "He who findeth a good neighbour findeth a precious thing". Family life is tough and it has survived many wars. Can we preach tolerance and understanding in our community so that even the most difficult situations will have a chance to heal in a favourable emotional climate without interference? The veteran and his family problems are not in a category by themselves and they could easily be you and me.

Secondly, we can strengthen our agencies, and government policy is tending in the direction of steering those with family problems to the appropriate civilian agencies, and auld acquaintance will bring others. War is only an episode in the lives of those who will come to us. Their problems will not be new, even if their outline changes from time to time. To give case-working services

in the unsettled years ahead will challenge us to the most sensitive casework. Also, we should not be far behind the experts in our knowledge of rehabilitation procedures, for it will be our job to help mesh these services, and the services of the community at large, into the lives and problems of those who need help in doing this. This will involve adequate budgets, adequate staff, and continually developing skills in our relationships with individuals and groups.

Back to the family for a moment and listen to a discharged man. "Just about seventy percent of the battle is a man's own family. If the home atmosphere is tranquil and those in the family are understanding, then the battle is just about won".

He ought to know, and if the "noises off" are seventy percent of the show let's give them equal billing with the star performers.

### ANSWERS TO MEETING QUIZ ON PAGE 24

1. One. Though meetings are not one-man jobs, the responsibility for planning them is best centralized.
2. Your theme should be hand-tailored for the audience you want to reach.
3. Two hours at the most unless you are assured of a remarkably patient audience.
4. No. It is unreasonable to expect that your audience can grasp in one or two hours everything your agency staff has worked fifty weeks a year to accomplish. It is wiser to select one or two outstanding projects on which to report, and provide additional details in the annual report you hand out at the meeting or mail afterwards.
5. Yes. More than that—give copies of such a timed agenda to everyone who shares responsibility for making it work.
6. Build your entire meeting toward the passing of a resolution or the signing of a petition or whatever you want done. Keep to that ultimate purpose every minute. Have your last speaker sound the call to action.
7. Pick an attractive place of right size within easy reach of *most* of your audience. A room filled to capacity creates a contagious enthusiasm, while too many vacant seats suggest failure. Time also depends on your audience.
8. Yes, provided he has a backlog of real enthusiasm for your work. But no one should be invited to appear on the program unless he is a good speaker, no matter how famous he is.
9. To give him enough time to do the job you've asked him to do. Don't overcrowd your program.
10. There are a number of ways to dress it up: A quiz with a board of experts, a skit, a mock radio program, movies or other features such as the "dinnergram" which is excellent for obtaining audience participation.
11. Personalized invitations followed up by a last-minute reminder by phone or reply postcard.
12. A lot of interesting things which we do not have space in *WELFARE* to mention. Yes.



***Service Education for R.C.A.F. Personnel:  
Its Implications for Post-war Rehabilitation.***

# **TOWARD ACHIEVEMENT IN CIVILIAN LIFE**

**GROUP CAPTAIN H. R. LOW,**  
*Director of Education, R.C.A.F., Ottawa*

## **OBJECTIVES**

**S**INCE the inception of the R.C.A.F. Educational Services it has been the intention and endeavour to achieve the following objectives:

- (1) To increase the technical skill and general efficiency of personnel who are engaged in a particular Service trade.
- (2) To assist those who wish to learn a new trade and indirectly fit themselves for post-war vocations.
- (3) To help all those who desire to continue their general or professional education.
- (4) To promote more intelligent interest in the war and in the problems that face every Canadian citizen in the post-war world.

As these objectives of Service education are reached, even in part, R.C.A.F. personnel become better qualified to carry out their duties in the Service, and to fulfil their tasks and democratic obligations as citizens in the happier and more constructive days of peace.

## **THE FIRST STAGE**

THE nature of the part played by the R.C.A.F. in modern warfare, involving exacting technical duties in the handling of complex war machines, required high standards of intelligence and scholastic

achievement in the selection of recruits. From the outset it was obvious, also, that, in the interest of the Service, the widest educational facilities should become available for its personnel to maintain and improve their qualifications.

Early in the war, opportunities for educational advancement were provided for members of the Armed Forces by the Canadian Legion Educational Services. Through the media of correspondence courses, tutorial classes and lectures in a growing variety of academic, vocational and technical subjects, personnel were enabled to take advantage of possibilities of improvement for Service life and for post-war life alike. Nevertheless, it was soon realized that the educational needs of Service personnel could be best met only if the R.C.A.F. organized an education branch. Accordingly, in the spring of 1942, the R.C.A.F. began to provide education officers for the guidance of its personnel. At present there are well over 400 full-time education officers and many part-time education officers functioning at almost every unit of this Service in Canada and Overseas.

## **FUNCTIONS OF UNIT EDUCATION OFFICERS**

AT FIRST the chief responsibility of education officers was to provide adequate instruction in mathematics, science, and English to permit personnel to remuster from ground-crew to aircrew. This was the greatest need at the time. Then their duties began to multiply until today education officers are among the busiest staff members on a station.

In the many specific functions which they are required to fulfil the following are some of the most important:

Advising the Commanding Officer on all educational matters; conducting trade improvement classes; giving Progress of War lectures to aircrew; organizing and supervising the station library and Information Room; forming discussion groups in current affairs; supervising advancement classes and correspondence courses; interviewing in connection with educational, Service and personal problems of unit personnel; and co-operating with personnel counsellors concerning educational problems connected with rehabilitation.

The complexity of duties assigned to education officers soon made it necessary for many of them to be given assistance. In October 1942, clerks (educational), with the rank of sergeant, were established at a number of units where there were full-time education officers. Highly qualified personnel with university training and teaching experience were selected and, in time, these clerks assumed many of the teaching duties ordinarily undertaken by the education officers. The latter were thus enabled to employ more of their

time in organizing other important educational activities on the unit.

## **TRADE IMPROVEMENT**

SINCE 1942 the R.C.A.F. Educational Services have actively promoted the technical efficiency of personnel in ground trades through the organization and supervision of trade improvement classes on units and by the preparation of trade manuals for the guidance of tradesmen in the study of their Air Force trades. It had previously become apparent that mechanics graduating from technical training schools and certain standard tradesmen remustered from other trades were not progressing into higher trade groups rapidly enough to meet increasing needs for more expertly qualified tradesmen. It became the responsibility of the R.C.A.F. Educational Services to provide suitable facilities for trade improvement.

Well organized classes under competent instructors using practical instructional aids proved the value of this venture. In 1943, therefore, attendance was made compulsory for all tradesmen who had not attained their highest grouping. As a result of this program of training, supported by sound organization on the part of unit education officers, many thousands of personnel have received at their units skilled instruction intended to increase their vocational efficiency and advance them in their trades.

The majority of air force trades have their equivalents in civilian occupations. It is apparent, then, that many personnel who have

taken advantage of trade improvement in the Service have already begun their rehabilitation for post-war jobs.

#### **SELF-ADVANCEMENT CLASSES**

SERVICE personnel who wish to employ their spare time to improve their academic standing are offered great scope and opportunity on many stations near urban centres. Such personnel may and do attend evening classes in matriculation and university subjects given at local schools and colleges. By so doing they are taking the first steps, while still in the Service, to reap the best advantage of government benefits designed for their future rehabilitation through post-war academic training. Subjects such as mathematics, modern languages, history, economics, sciences and psychology are among the most popular registrations.

Again it is the unit education officer who carries out the organization of these classes, who advises personnel on the selection of suitable courses, and who, in co-operation with the Canadian Legion Educational Services, makes the necessary arrangements with the civilian educational authorities. Furthermore, he often gives coaching help to individuals and may even organize station classes in academic subjects. Frequently, when required, the R.C.A.F. provides transportation to and from the classes located beyond convenient walking distance from a station.

Certain personnel particularly interested in commercial courses such as bookkeeping, shorthand

and typing or in the wide range of manual courses offered by technical schools may enrol at such institutions located in the vicinity of their units. These airmen and airwomen, too, are anticipating the rehabilitation benefits, through vocational training, to which those properly qualified are entitled after discharge.

For still other personnel there is the possibility of joining handicraft classes at present being organized on many stations. These latter courses, although less formal in nature, contribute greatly to maintaining morale as well as assisting self-improvement after Service working hours.

Well over 7,000 personnel are at present constructively employing their spare time in attending academic, commercial, or technical courses, in undertaking handicraft projects or in pursuing related educational activities. In so doing they have kept up their morale, have fitted themselves to render better service in the R.C.A.F. and have laid foundations for their future rehabilitation.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE COURSES AND DIRECTED READING**

FOR all Service personnel who, through preference or convenience, wish to continue their formal education or to improve their general knowledge and skill by means of correspondence courses or directed reading, there are the widest opportunities. More than 150 courses are provided through the facilities of the Canadian Legion Educational Services and the majority of these courses carry

educational credit recognized by all Canadian departments of education and universities. This type of work is organized and supervised by unit education officers, who, in addition, frequently provide supplementary individual or class tutorial assistance.

Large numbers of R.C.A.F. personnel who take these courses have an eye to the future as well as to the present. They see clearly that the correspondence work which was undertaken with a view to improving their calibre in the Service, will in effect stand them in good stead in furthering their re-establishment in civilian life.

#### **LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION ROOMS**

ANOTHER of the responsibilities of the education branch of the R.C.A.F. has been the establishment and organization of unit libraries and information rooms which are under the direction of the education officers. Apart from its recreational value, important in the maintenance of morale, each library, with its technical and reference sections, contributes materially to the advancement of specialist skill and knowledge so essential in a fighting Service.

Both libraries and information rooms, as far as possible, are situated in warm, well-lighted, and comfortably furnished locations on a unit. Since August, 1943, many units have enjoyed the services of full-time clerk (librarians) whose function it is to publicize the library, to make it available to personnel at the most convenient hours, to study and cater to the

varied reading interests of all ranks, and to see that training and technical objectives are served to the best advantage.

Station libraries of the R.C.A.F. in Canada have accumulated resources of over 200,000 books. Many of these volumes were generously provided by voluntary organizations such as the I.O.D.E., others were obtained through the library facilities of the C.L.E.S., while still others were purchased through R.C.A.F. library grants and non-public station funds. Monthly circulation figures at station libraries clearly indicate the extensive, intelligent, and appreciative use made of these books as one means, not only of entertainment but of fuller and better preparation for Service and post-war vocational and cultural advancement.

Information rooms are natural supplements to the libraries. Here the unit education officer arranges attractive displays of pictures, posters, maps and charts descriptive of latest developments in war machines and on the battle fronts. He sees that pamphlets, bulletins and reference books current to the war and general Canadian and world affairs are provided to keep personnel abreast of the times. In every sense of the word this is the unit "gen" room. It contains a wealth of the most recent information pertaining to the progress of the war as well as that dealing with topics of national and international interest which concern the present and future welfare of all ranks.

### LECTURES AND DISCUSSION GROUPS

THE mode and methods of modern mechanized warfare demand not only a high standard of technical training and skill but also sound qualifications of general knowledge and intelligence on the part of aircrew and groundcrew alike. Cromwell once described the citizen soldier as one "who must know what he fights for, and love what he knows." To this end, therefore, the R.C.A.F. Educational Services has stressed consistently the paramount importance of keeping its personnel informed about current events and of encouraging the discussion of the issues underlying the war and the problems pertaining to the establishment of peace.

The R.C.A.F. Directorate of Education, through its unit education officers, provides lecture ma-

terial on progress of war studies designed primarily for pre-aircrew and aircrew trainees. Time is laid down for these lectures in the syllabi of the various types of R.C.A.F. schools and these lectures are an integral part of their schemes of training.

For all other types of personnel, discussion groups dealing with current Canadian and world affairs have been organized as a part of Service routine. At least one hour weekly, whenever possible, is devoted to the interest of this program. Again Air Force Headquarters supplies the guides and topical material in the form of "Gen Kits" for this activity.

A plan has been devised to set up on units rotating panels of discussion group leaders acting under the supervision of the education





officer. These leaders are chosen from interested personnel. Each specializes on a selected topic for discussion and visits in turn separate groups to discuss his particular assigned subject. Topics dealing with the contemporary scene and of peculiar interest to Canadians especially have been carefully prepared for inclusion in the "Gen Kits" which are now available. Group leaders find such bulletins and pamphlets as the weekly R.C.A.F. "Current Trends", the Wartime Information Board publication, "Canadian Affairs", the "Behind the Headlines" and "Contemporary Affairs" series, the "Oxford Pamphlets", the British ABCA pamphlets and many other sources of reference material invaluable aids in the preparation of material for their discussions.

On many units education officers have been greatly assisted in this program of "education in citizenship" through the voluntary services of speakers from local, provincial and federal departments of government, from University Extension Departments, from Service Clubs, from the ranks of repatriated personnel, and from panels provided by C.L.E.S. Regional Committees. Probably no greater contribution is being made to the creation of a body of clear, objective thinking, of understanding and tolerant discussion, and of worthy preparation for Service and post-war civilian life alike than is to be found in this democratic function of R.C.A.F. Educational Services.

Lectures and discussions are one sure means of helping to make air force personnel keenly aware of the need of viewing their future in the light of present world conditions and changes. The topics which they discuss are very closely connected with every phase of rehabilitation. The world of today in which Canadian airmen and airwomen are playing a significant and heroic part poses problems which will challenge their best thought, endeavour, and achievement in that post-war world of tomorrow to which all can and must contribute their best in intelligence, work, and social improvement.

#### **THE IMPLICATIONS FOR POST-WAR REHABILITATION**

DURING the war the R.C.A.F. Educational Services has made a significant contribution to the training of civilians to become airmen. Essentially its entire program has been concerned primarily in promoting increased knowledge, skill and general efficiency in various Air Force trades and duties to the end that its personnel might become better qualified to cope with the many tasks peculiar to the R.C.A.F.

While the whole educational program has thus been directed mainly toward the making of a better airman or airwoman, it has also had a far-reaching effect upon the general education of the individual in the Service. Though school days have ended abruptly for many young men and women in the R.C.A.F., these have found available at the unit the services of



highly trained educational personnel. Moreover, they have found that by fitting themselves educationally to play a more significant part as airmen or airwomen they have also been fitting themselves to play a more significant part as citizens. Running through the whole scheme of R.C.A.F. education—its initial objectives, the pro-

vision for trade improvement, the organization of classes and courses, the facilities of libraries and information rooms, the development of discussion groups—may be seen two parallel ways, one leading to success in the field of Service life, the other leading to the achievement of cherished ambitions in the field of civilian life.

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## Assistance aux Démobilisés

**P**OUR faire suite à la série d'écrits présentés dans cette livraison de *WELFARE*, nous avons cru bon reproduire presque in extenso un article paru dans *La Voix des Oeuvres*, décembre 1944, et se rapportant à l'assistance aux démobilisés. Ce sujet est vital à l'heure actuelle; déjà, dans certaines de nos paroisses canadiennes-françaises, on a organisé des comités de bénévoles qui aideront nos militaires démobilisés. Nos oeuvres sociales seront aussi appelées à prêter leur concours à la réhabilitation de nos militaires. Il importe que dès maintenant elles se préparent à cette tâche.

Le gouvernement fédéral par l'intermédiaire du nouveau ministère des Vétérans, entend donner à tous nos militaires démobilisés, hommes et femmes, l'aide dont ils auront besoin pour reprendre la vie civile normale. Aux démobilisés de se prévaloir des multiples avantages qui leur sont offerts.

En laissant l'armée, le démobilisé bénéficie d'un examen médi-

cal et dentaire, d'une allocation pour vêtements ainsi que d'une allocation de réhabilitation. De plus, il a droit à certaines gratuités de guerre dont le montant varie avec son rang et ses services.

Des commissions régionales de réhabilitation, des officiers du bien-être des vétérans, des comités de citoyens bénévoles sont à la disposition des démobilisés pour les guider dans leur réintégration dans la vie civile. Le vétéran qui a été blessé trouvera dans les divers hôpitaux militaires un officier du bien-être qui saura le conseiller et l'orienter.

### EMPLOI

S'IL en fait la demande au cours de la période de trois mois après sa démobilisation, le vétéran a droit à son ancien emploi. La loi d'assurance-chômage établit que tous les ex-membres des forces armées, après avoir travaillé quinze semaines à un emploi soumis aux règlements de l'assurance-chômage, auront droit aux mêmes bénéfices que s'ils avaient travaillé à cet

emploi à dater du premier juillet 1941. La Commission du service civil accorde sa préférence aux vétérans des forces armées qui ont servi outre-mer et aux bénéficiaires de pension. La même préférence est accordée dans le cas de contrats de guerre du gouvernement.

#### OCTROIS SPECIAUX

PLUSIEURS catégories d'octrois sont à la disposition du vétéran:

(1) Une *allocation de subsistance* pour la période de temps durant laquelle il est sans emploi.

(2) *Apprentissage*. Tous les vétérans qui veulent se prévaloir d'une formation pour un métier peuvent recevoir une allocation d'un an dans ce but. Si au bout de 52 semaines l'apprentissage n'est pas terminé une allocation supplémentaire peut être accordée dans certains cas.

(3) *Formation universitaire*. Le militaire qui a dû abandonner ses études pour s'enrôler peut reprendre ses cours pourvu qu'il en fasse la demande pendant les quinze mois qui suivront sa démobilisation. Le militaire dont l'éducation est insuffisante pour lui permettre de s'inscrire à une Université aura aussi droit à certains cours d'études secondaires. Dans les deux cas les cours peuvent se poursuivre durant une période ou un nombre de mois équivalent à la durée de service du vétéran. Les étudiants méritants pourront poursuivre leurs études jusqu'au moment de leur graduation, et même suivre des cours postsecondaires. Tous les frais seront payés par le gouvernement. Les autorités peuvent

même permettre aux vétérans de s'inscrire dans les universités sises hors du Canada, si c'est jugé nécessaire.

N.B.—Au cours de cette période d'apprentissage ou de formation universitaire, le militaire et sa famille bénéficient d'allocations.

(4) *Assistance agricole* — Le "Veterans' Land Act" prévoit une assistance financière partielle ou totale pour les vétérans qui veulent se livrer à l'agriculture. Cette loi prévoit une aide maxima de \$6,000 pour le terrain et les établissements et \$1,200 pour l'outillage et les animaux. Le vétéran doit verser 10% du prix de sa terre et des établissements et rembourser les 2/3 du coût total durant une période de 25 ans, à un intérêt de 3½%. Des prêts sont aussi à la disposition des vétérans qui possèdent déjà une ferme.

Peuvent bénéficier de l'assistance agricole: les hommes compétents qui peuvent consacrer tout leur temps à l'agriculture;

Les travailleurs urbains qui peuvent vivre sur des fermes situées non loin de l'endroit où ils sont employés;

Les pêcheurs commerciaux d'expérience qui désirent du travail temporaire sur de petites fermes.

La surveillance de ces vétérans relèvera de bureaux provinciaux où la compétence du vétéran et la qualité des fermes seront étudiées.

#### TRAITEMENT MEDICAL

Les militaires démobilisés qui ont besoin de traitements médicaux

sont particulièrement avantagés. Les traitements sont autorisés et surveillés par le Ministère de la Santé Nationale dans les hôpitaux de l'armée et certains autres hôpitaux. Les militaires y reçoivent les soins de spécialistes les plus réputés. Ces traitements gratuits s'adressent tout d'abord aux militaires qui reçoivent une pension à cause d'incapacité physique permanente ou temporaire. Les non-bénéficiaires d'une pension peuvent aussitôt être traités gratuitement.

### PENSIONS

LA Commission des Pensions reçoit les réclamations de pensions faites par les vétérans et décide de leur valeur. Si la pension est refusée, le militaire intéressé a droit de demander une seconde étude de son cas et peut lui-même présenter les pièces à l'appui. Si de nouveau la décision de la Commission des Pensions est défavorable, le militaire peut avoir recours à une Commission d'arbitrage et amener les témoins qu'il désire. La décision

de cette commission est finale à moins qu'elle ne décide qu'une erreur antérieure a été faite.

### MINISTERE DES VETERANS

DANS les petites localités, la Légion Canadienne sera chargée de s'occuper des problèmes de réhabilitation quand ils surgiront. Elle communiquera ensuite avec le Ministère des Vétérans. Dans les villes à population moyenne, on pourra avoir recours à un fonctionnaire du Service National Sélectif spécialement désigné à cet effet. Dans les grands centres, on établira des bureaux avec personnel spécialisé et apte à diriger les démobilisés vers l'emploi, les ressources éducatives les plus favorables. Ce personnel ne s'occupera pas de service social mais référera les cas aux oeuvres appropriées. Nos oeuvres auront donc une fois de plus l'occasion de collaborer avec les organismes gouvernementaux et de prêter ainsi leur concours à la réhabilitation des démobilisés.

M.H.

## BOOK



## REVIEWS

**SOLDIER TO CIVILIAN**, by George K. Pratt, M.D. Foreword by George S. Stevenson, M.D. McGraw-Hill Book Company, New York, 1944. 233 pp. Price \$2.50.

This timely and very readable book by an eminent practising psychiatrist will be welcomed by

social workers and others who are eager to furnish practical help to our returning soldiers and sailors as they face the difficult task of re-adjusting to civilian life.

In his introduction, Dr. Pratt emphasizes the need for the creation of an atmosphere of understanding and sturdy support for

these men and women. He says that we will be assisted in understanding them if we attempt to learn the language of behaviour wherein we interpret why people act as they do. By way of illustration, the author raises these questions—"Why does one ex-soldier keep a grim-lipped silence and refuse to talk about his war experiences, while another embarrasses his family with ceaseless loquacity of this subject? What is another trying awkwardly to tell us through his actions when he restlessly throws up one good job after another and won't settle down? What is the meaning of the behaviour of a third when he soon becomes snappish toward the mother or wife he idealized while overseas? Why does the formerly self-sufficient and self-confident soldier now act fearful, timid and unsure?" And, in answer, Dr. Pratt says—"These men are trying to tell us who care for them that they feel confused, frightened, anxious, but their message is conveyed in actions rather than in the words they cannot find. It is up to us, then, if we are to be of genuine help, to fathom the meaning of these actions and make our own reactions constructive".

The author is convinced that we cannot gain an understanding of a returning soldier unless we take into account his developmental history prior to enlistment and the nature of his military experiences. The first section of the book is devoted to these matters with subsequent chapters on How the

Army Prevents Strains of Adjustment; Soldiers with Psychiatric Disabilities; The First Weeks at Home; Going Back to Work; and Getting Reacquainted with the Family.

There is an excellent appendix on Community Services for Veterans: A Guide to planning and co-ordination, that has been formulated by the National Committee on Service to Veterans. It contains timely advice for leaders who wish to co-ordinate and make as highly efficient as possible the service for veterans' groups within their communities.

Social workers will be particularly interested in Dr. Pratt's discussion of the problems of the psychiatrically unfit, of the question as to whether a wife should continue a wage earning job, and of the attitudes that should be taken toward the physically handicapped. In regard to the latter, the author says—"Take it for granted that the disabled man will resume the performance of every activity he formerly engaged in, except for those that involve the areas definitely limited by his handicap. Don't absolve him from all duties or responsibilities and, most of all, don't baby him."

This very human, helpful volume, with a wealth of clinical illustrations, is a noteworthy addition to our expanding literature on rehabilitation.

CLARENCE M. HINCKES, M.D.,  
*General Director, National Committee for Mental Hygiene (Canada).*









# CANADIAN *Welfare*

*a magazine on social welfare  
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the opinion of the writer, and not necessarily the point of view of the  
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## The Canadian Welfare Council

Was founded in Ottawa, in 1920, as the result of a National Conference of Child Welfare Workers,  
convened by the Child Welfare Division, Dominion Department of Health.

### OBJECT

- (1) To create throughout the Dominion of Canada an informed public opinion on problems in the field of social welfare.
- (2) To assist in the promotion of standards and services which are based on scientific principles and which have been proved effective in practical experience.

### METHODS

- (1) The preparation and publication of literature, arrangement of lectures, addresses, radio and film material, etc., and general educational propaganda in social welfare.
- (2) Conferences. (3) Field Studies and Surveys. (4) Research.

### MEMBERSHIP

The membership falls into two groups, organization and individual.

- (1) Organization membership shall be open to any organization, institution or group having the progress of Canadian Social Welfare wholly or in part included in their programme, articles of incorporation, or other statement of incorporation.
- (2) Individual membership shall be open to any individual interested in or engaged in welfare work, upon payment of the fee, whether that individual is in work, under any government in Canada, or not.

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